

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) ~~A spread illuminating apparatus according to Claim 1~~ A spread illuminating apparatus comprising:

at least one spot-like light source; and

a light conductive plate formed of a substantially transparent material, and adapted to allow light emitted from the at least one spot-like light source and introduced therein to exit out from one major surface thereof, the light conductive plate being shaped into a polygon which has two sides thereof substantially parallel to each other, and includes, as a part thereof, at least one triangle having its base defined by an imaginary line connecting respective straightly opposing ends of the two parallel sides, and which has a spot-like light source disposed at a side thereof constituting one of two hypotenuses of the triangle,

wherein an angle formed between a line normal to the side of the polygon having the spot-like light source and one side of the two parallel sides of the polygon adjacent to the side having the spot-like light source is calculated by a formula:

$$55 - (Y/X) \times 15 \text{ degrees}$$

where Y is a length of the one side of the two parallel sides, and X is a distance between the two parallel sides.

3. (Currently Amended) A spread illuminating apparatus according to Claim 1~~2~~, wherein the spot-like light source is disposed so as not to protrude beyond an extended line of one side of the two parallel sides of the polygon adjacent to the side having the spot-like light source.

4. (Original) A spread illuminating apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein a ratio of the length Y to the distance X ranges from 1 to 2.5.

5. (Currently Amended) A spread illuminating apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the polygon is a pentagon including, as a part thereof, one triangle which has its base defined by an imaginary line connecting respective straightly opposing ends of the two parallel sides.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~A spread illuminating apparatus according to Claim 1~~ A spread illuminating apparatus comprising:

at least one spot-like light source; and

a light conductive plate formed of a substantially transparent material, and adapted to allow light emitted from the at least one spot-like light source and introduced thereinto to exit out from one major surface thereof, the light conductive plate being shaped into a polygon which has two sides thereof substantially parallel to each other, and includes, as a part thereof, at least one triangle having its base defined by an imaginary line connecting respective straightly opposing ends of the two parallel sides, and which has a spot-like light source disposed at a side thereof constituting one of two hypotenuses of the triangle,

wherein the polygon is a hexagon including, as parts thereof, two triangles which are shaped identical with each other, and which are positioned and oriented symmetric about a center point of the light conductive plate whereby two sides of the hexagon each having a spot-like light source are oriented parallel to each other.

7. (Currently Amended) A spread illuminating apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the light conductive plate has a light scattering pattern formed on at least one major surface thereof.

8. (Original) A spread illuminating apparatus according to Claim 7, wherein the light scattering pattern comprises a plurality of pattern elements staggeringly disposed in a lattice-like arrangement.